

or suggestion in the prior art to combine the teachings of the references as asserted in the Office Action.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are directed to methods, apparatuses, and articles of manufacture, respectively, for determining access to a system. These claims recite, for each of a plurality of requests, determining whether to allow access to the system using an access vector to identify an available access object.

Heath is relied on for receiving one or more requests to access a system, but the Examiner admits that Heath fails to teach, for each request, determining whether to allow access to the system using an access vector to identify an available access object. White is relied upon to fulfill that deficiency. White discloses using a token to authenticate a user in allowing access to a specified CGI among a set of CGI applications. See Fig. 5; col. 9, lines 15-37; and col. 6, line 63 through col. 7, line 5.

In the Office Action it is asserted that White's token is an access vector and that a requested CGI application among the set is an available access object. It is further asserted that a person of ordinary skill would have been motivated to modify the teachings of Heath with White for the purpose of achieving authenticated access to CGI applications that is web server-independent and operating system independent. However, assuming *arguendo* that there is a suggestion in the prior art to combine the teachings of Heath and White, which it is respectfully submitted there is not, such a combination would not satisfy all the limitations of claim 1. This is because such a combination does not include, for each request, determining whether to allow access to a system using an access vector to identify an available access object, as required by the claims.

The tokens disclosed in White, are not used to “identify an available access object,” as required by the claims. Rather, White uses tokens only to verify the identity of the requestor. See White, Fig. 5, col. 9, lines 15-37, and col. 7. As shown in Fig. 5 of White, a client requests access to a specific CGI program 200. If the request is accompanied by a token and it is valid 224, access is granted to the CGI program that is specified in the request 216. However, White neither teaches nor suggests that a token is used to “identify an available access object,” as required by the claims. Accordingly, even if the references were combined, as asserted in the Office Action, all the limitations of the claims would not be met.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the Heath/White combination asserted in the Office Action does not render claim 1 unpatentable, because such a modified system simply does not include, for each request, determining whether to allow access to the system using an access vector to identify an available access object.

The remaining independent claims, 11 and 21, recite for each request, determining whether to allow access to the system using an access vector to identify an available access object. Accordingly, the asserted Heath/White combination also does not include all the limitations of independent claims 11 and 21, for at least the same reasons.

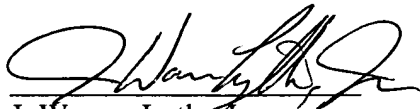
The remaining claims contain by reference all the limitations of one of claims 1, 11 and 21. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that those claims are not rendered unpatentable by a Heath/White combination for at least the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to find the application in condition for allowance. However, if for any reason the Examiner believes that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully

requested to call the undersigned to resolve any issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time that may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-0460.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Warren Lytle, Jr.

Registration No. 39,283

EPSTEIN, EDELL, SHAPIRO, FINNAN & LYTLE, LLC  
1901 Research Blvd., Suite 400  
Rockville, Maryland 20850-3164  
(301) 424-3640  
Hand Delivered on: March 7, 2002